

Department of State

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SOURCE: 52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Passport and Visas Not Required for Certain Nonimmigrants

§ 41.1 Exemption by law or treaty from passport and visa requirements.

Nonimmigrants in the following categories are exempt from the passport and visa requirements of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), (i)(II):

(a) *Alien members of the U.S. Armed Forces.* An alien member of the U.S. Armed Forces in uniform or bearing proper military identification, who has not been lawfully admitted for permanent residence, coming to the United States under official orders or permit of such Armed Forces (Sec. 284, 86 Stat. 232; 8 U.S.C. 1354).

(b) *American Indians born in Canada.* An American Indian born in Canada, having at least 50 per centum of blood of the American Indian race (Sec. 289, 66 Stat. 234; 8 U.S.C. 1359.)

(c) *Aliens entering from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands.* An alien departing from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States, and seeking to enter the continental United States or any other place under the jurisdiction of the United States (Sec. 212, 66 Stat. 188; 8 U.S.C. 1182.)

(d) *Armed Services personnel of a NATO member.* Personnel belonging to the armed services of a government which is a Party to the North Atlantic Treaty and which has ratified the Agreement

Between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces, signed at London on June 19, 1951, and entering the United States under Article III of that Agreement pursuant to an individual or collective movement order issued by an appropriate agency of the sending state or of NATO (TIAS 2846; 4 U.S.T. 1792.)

(e) *Armed Services personnel attached to a NATO headquarters in the United States.* Personnel attached to a NATO Headquarters in the United States set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty, belonging to the armed services of a government which is a Party to the Treaty and entering the United States in connection with their official duties under the provisions of the Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters Set Up Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty (TIAS 2978; 5 U.S.T. 875.)

(f) *Aliens entering pursuant to International Boundary and Water Commission Treaty.* All personnel employed either directly or indirectly on the construction, operation, or maintenance of works in the United States undertaken in accordance with the treaty concluded on February 3, 1944, between the United States and Mexico regarding the functions of the International Boundary and Water Commission, and entering the United States temporarily in connection with such employment (59 Stat. 1252; TS 994.)

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 41.2 Waiver by Secretary of State and Attorney General of passport and/or visa requirements for certain categories of nonimmigrants.

Pursuant to the authority of the Secretary of State and the Attorney General under INA 212(d)(4), the passport and/or visa requirements of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), (i)(II) are waived as specified below for the following categories of nonimmigrants:

(a) *Canadian nationals.* A passport is not required except after a visit outside the Western Hemisphere. A visa is not required.

(b) *Aliens resident in Canada or Bermuda having a common nationality with*

nationals of Canada or with British subjects in Bermuda. A passport is not required except after a visit outside the Western Hemisphere. A visa is not required.

(c) *Bahamian nationals and British subjects resident in the Bahamas.* A passport is required. A visa is not required if, prior to the embarkation of such an alien for the United States on a vessel or aircraft, the examining U.S. immigration officer at Freeport or Nassau determines that the individual is clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to admission.

(d) *British subjects resident in the Cayman Islands or in the Turks and Caicos Islands.* A passport is required. A visa is not required if the alien arrives directly from the Cayman Islands or the Turks and Caicos Islands and presents a current certificate from the Clerk of Court of the Cayman Islands or the Turks and Caicos Islands indicating no criminal record.

(e) *British, French, and Netherlands nationals and nationals of certain adjacent islands of the Caribbean which are independent countries.* A passport is required. A visa is not required of a British, French or Netherlands national, or of a national of Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, or Trinidad and Tobago, who has residence in British, French, or Netherlands territory located in the adjacent islands of the Caribbean area, or has residence in Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, or Trinidad and Tobago, if the alien:

(1) Is proceeding to the United States as an agricultural worker; or

(2) Is the beneficiary of a valid, unexpired, indefinite certification granted by the Department of Labor for employment in the Virgin Islands of the United States and is proceeding thereto for employment, or is the spouse or child of such an alien accompanying or following to join the alien.

(f) *Nationals and residents of the British Virgin Islands proceeding to the Virgin Islands of the United States.* A passport is required. A visa is not required of a national of the British Virgin Islands who resides therein and is proceeding to the Virgin Islands of the United States.

(g) *Mexican nationals.* (1) A visa and a passport are not required of a Mexican

national in possession of a border crossing identification card and applying for admission as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure from contiguous territory.

(2) A visa is not required of a Mexican national possessing a border crossing identification card and applying for admission to the United States as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure or in transit from noncontiguous territory.

(3) A visa is not required of a Mexican national employed as a crew member on an aircraft belonging to a Mexican company authorized to engage in commercial transportation into the United States.

(4) A visa is not required of a Mexican national bearing a Mexican diplomatic or official passport who is a military or civilian official of the Federal Government of Mexico entering the United States for a stay of up to 6 months for any purpose other than on assignment as a permanent employee to an office of the Mexican Federal Government in the United States. A visa is also not required of the official's spouse or any of the official's dependent family members under 19 years of age who hold diplomatic or official passports and are in the actual company of the official at the time of entry. This waiver does not apply to the spouse or any of the official's family members classifiable under INA 101(a)(15) (F) or (M).

(h) *Natives and residents of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.* A visa and a passport are not required of a native and resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands who has proceeded in direct and continuous transit from the Trust Territory to the United States.

(i) *Aliens in immediate transit without visa (TWOV).* A passport and visa are not required of an alien in immediate and continuous transit through the United States in accordance with the terms of an agreement entered into between the carrier and INS on Form I-426, Immediate and Continuous Transit Agreement Between a Transportation Line and United States of America, pursuant to INA 238(d) to ensure transit through and departure from the United States en route to a specified

foreign country. The alien must be in possession of travel documentation establishing identity, nationality, and ability to enter a country other than the United States. This waiver of visa and passport requirement is not available to an alien who is a citizen of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cuba, India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, or a citizen of a Republic of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which includes Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia, and Macedonia. This waiver of visa and passport requirements is also not available to an alien who is a citizen of North Korea ("Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea") or Vietnam ("Socialist Republic of Vietnam"), and is a resident of one of the said countries. It is, on a basis of reciprocity, available to a national of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolian People's Republic, People's Republic of China, Poland, Romania, or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, resident in one of those countries, only if he is transiting the United States by aircraft of a transportation line signatory to an agreement with the Immigration and Naturalization Service on Form 1-426 on a direct through flight which will depart directly to a foreign place from the port of arrival.

(j) *Individual cases of unforeseen emergencies.* A visa and passport are not required of an alien if, either prior to the alien's embarkation abroad or upon arrival at a port of entry, the responsible district director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in charge of the port of entry concludes that the alien is unable to present the required documents because of an unforeseen emergency. Any waiver of the visa or passport requirement may be granted by the INS district director pursuant to INA 212(d)(4)(A) without the prior concurrence of the Department of State in each case in which the district director concludes that the alien's claim of emergency circumstances is legitimate and bona fide and that approval of the waiver would be appropriate under all of the attendant facts and circumstances.

(k) *Fiance(e) of a U.S. citizen.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (h) of this section, a visa is required of an alien described in such paragraphs who is classified, or who seeks classification, under INA 101(a)(15)(K).

(l) *Visa waiver pilot program.* (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section, a visa is not required of any person who seeks admission to the United States for a period of 90 days or less as a visitor for business or pleasure and who is eligible to apply for admission to the United States as a Visa Waiver Pilot Program applicant.

(2) Countries designated as pilot program countries under paragraph (l)(1), of this section are: the United Kingdom (effective July 1, 1988); Japan (effective December 15, 1988); France and Switzerland (effective July 1, 1989); The Federal Republic of Germany and Sweden (effective July 15, 1989); Italy and The Netherlands (effective July 29, 1989); Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, San Marino, and Spain (effective October 1, 1991); Brunei (effective July 29, 1993); Ireland (effective April 1, 1995); Argentina (effective July 8, 1996); Australia (effective July 29, 1996) and Slovenia (effective September 30, 1997).

(m) *Treaty Trader and Treaty Investor.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, a visa is required of a Canadian national who is classified, or who seeks classification, under INA 101(a)(15)(E).

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 53 FR 9110, Mar. 21, 1988; 53 FR 50162, Dec. 13, 1988; 53 FR 53375, Dec. 30, 1988; 54 FR 27121, June 27, 1989; 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 56 FR 46717, Sept. 13, 1991; 58 FR 40586, July 29, 1993; 58 FR 43439, Aug. 16, 1993; 59 FR 1473, Jan. 11, 1994; 60 FR 15874, Mar. 28, 1995; 61 FR 35629, July 8, 1996; 61 FR 39319, July 29, 1996; 62 FR 51031, Sept. 30, 1997]

§ 41.3 Waiver by joint action of consular and immigration officers of passport and/or visa requirements.

Under the authority of INA 212(d)(4), the documentary requirements of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), (i)(II) may be waived for any alien in whose case the consular officer serving the port or place